

ways we can do that is by giving them a hero's burial in a national cemetery. God bless our veterans. And go west Texas.

RECOGNIZING BOB DINGEMAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. PETERS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the late Colonel Robert "Bob" Dingeman, a decorated veteran and beloved community leader who dedicated his entire life to service.

Bob's commitment to service began when he was just a teenager. He was living with his family in Hawaii and serving in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Bob helped to get the women and children to safety before joining the defense of the base, and the events of that day led Bob to a life of military service.

He graduated from West Point in 1945 and went on to serve in World War II, the Korean war, and the Vietnam war. During his decades of service, Bob earned a Silver Star, Soldier's Medal, Bronze Star, and Purple Heart.

After retiring from the Army, Bob earned multiple master's degrees and worked as a college professor at San Diego Miramar College, teaching math, history, and political science.

Bob became a pillar of San Diego's Scripps Ranch community where he and his wife, Gaye, and their children made their home.

Bob helped create the town's council, the Scripps Ranch Civic Association; organized many annual traditions, including the Fourth of July Parade; and established the community newsletter.

The Robert E. Dingeman Elementary School opened in 1995, so named by the San Diego Unified School District to recognize Bob Dingeman's accomplishments in the community. The school celebrates Bob Dingeman Day every year on June 12, Bob's birthday.

Scripps Ranch and San Diego are better off for Bob's leadership and his community involvement. His legacy of military and volunteer service will continue to be an example for us all.

Please join me in honoring Bob Dingeman for his dedication to Scripps Ranch and his service to the country.

RECOGNIZING MARINE CORPS AIR STATION MIRAMAR'S COMMITMENT TO ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Marine Corps Air Station Miramar on receiving a 2019 Secretary of Defense Environmental Award.

The award recognizes Marine Corps Air Station Miramar's commitment to protecting the environment while supporting the mission of the military.

The United States Department of Defense is the world's largest user of fossil fuels, and when the price of those fuels spike, it harms our mission. That is why the Marine Corps views energy security as national security.

The marines at Miramar have led on energy storage research through a partnership with the California Energy Commission's Electric Program Investment Charge and deployed a methane-to-energy project from an onsite landfill that generates half the base's energy.

MCAS Miramar's installation-wide microgrid delivers 100 percent renewable energy to the base. Its distribution can provide reliable energy to mission-critical facilities for 3 weeks if they are ever disconnected from the grid.

This achievement has wide implications for the Marines, San Diego, and the way we power our world. Energy innovation has always come naturally to the military, and MCAS Miramar embodies San Diego's forward-thinking approach and commitment to sustainability.

I thank Marine Corps Air Station Miramar and all marines stationed there for their service to our Nation. I thank Marine Corps leadership for their dedication to alternative energy.

Please join me in congratulating Marine Corps Air Station Miramar on the 2019 Secretary of Defense Environmental Award.

RECOGNIZING NEW CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF SAN DIEGO

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the New Children's Museum of San Diego, winner of the 2019 National Medal for Museum and Library Service. This award is the highest honor given to museums that demonstrate extraordinary and innovative approaches to community service.

The New Children's Museum, which will celebrate its 36th anniversary this year, is a cornerstone of arts and culture for San Diego families.

The museum is certainly a model for engaging people of all backgrounds with art. They collaborate with community centers, social service organizations, and schools to spread art, creativity, and play outside the museum.

The New Children's Museum employs a philosophy that enables children to learn through play. Their philosophy is pervasive in their immersive exhibits that allow children to climb, touch, build, and engage with the art.

I brought my own children there to think, play, and create, like so many families, when they were younger.

Today, the museum offers free and reduced admission for military families, Head Start groups, homeless and foster children, migrant families, and more.

This award is a testament to the New Children's Museum's service to San Diegans.

Please join me in honoring the New Children's Museum.

HONORING SENATOR RICHARD LUGAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUCSHON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BUCSHON. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my House colleagues to honor and remember Senator Richard Lugar, a giant in Indiana politics who recently passed away at the age of 87.

For those who had the privilege to serve in Congress alongside Senator Lugar, you simply could not find a better mentor, colleague, and friend. Nor could you find a more honorable and decent individual.

Senator Lugar truly defined what it meant to be a principled statesman, dedicating his life to the betterment of the world, our Nation, and the Hoosier State.

From serving in the United States Navy to being elected mayor of Indianapolis in 1968 and to his service in the United States Senate from 1977 until 2013, he spent his entire life in service to his Nation and his fellow Americans.

While Senator Lugar worked on a wide variety of issues during his time in office, it was in the realm of foreign policy that he made the largest impact. Senator Lugar's knowledge of foreign policy issues was unmatched. Our Nation will forever be stronger and safer because of his tireless efforts.

It was a privilege and honor to serve alongside Senator Lugar during my first term in Congress. As I stand here today, it is truly humbling to say goodbye to a man who inspired so many to answer the call to service.

Our thoughts continue to be with his beloved wife, Charlene; his sons, Mark, Bob, John, David; and the rest of the Lugar family.

May he have fair winds and following seas. Godspeed.

MARKING THE CENTENNIAL OF PASSAGE OF 19TH AMENDMENT IN THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. TRAHAN). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark the 100th anniversary of this Chamber's passage of the 19th Amendment guaranteeing women the right to vote.

The battle for the 19th Amendment was long and hard-fought. It was 72 years from the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848 to the affirmation in our Constitution that women were owed the right to vote.

But the ultimate goal was not just the vote. It was what the vote means: that American women, all women, could enjoy the same rights and freedoms as American men.

In the last 100 years, we remain well short of that goal. In fact, this past week's latest assault on women's bodily autonomy is proof of that. The fact that women make 80 cents on the dollar compared to men, and much less for women of color, shows that we have a long way to go.

When there is so much work left to do to realize full equality for all American citizens, we cannot afford to move backward.

It is clear we need women's voices now more than ever. I am very proud of the fact that 40 percent of the Democrats in Congress are women, but we need more.

I am proud to serve with the largest group of women in Congress in U.S. history and to call these incredible Congresswomen my friends, colleagues, and Speaker of the House. I look forward to working with them toward full gender equality.

We will not wait another 100 years.

HONORING JIMMIE LEE MASON, SR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CONAWAY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a longtime good friend of mine named Jimmie Lee Mason from Lubbock, Texas.

Jimmie Lee was a CPA, a consummate professional, and someone who took his profession very seriously and helped create the firm Mason Warner, which is in existence today.

Jimmie Lee passed away on April 5, 2019. He was 89 years old and leaves a giant hole in the hearts of his family, as you might expect.

I first met Jimmie Lee when I joined the State Board of Accountancy in Texas. Jimmie Lee, for whatever reason, and I will now never know, chose to take me under his wing. He mentored me. He was a wise counselor.

As a result of his friendship and his help, I was able to chair the State Board of Accountancy, and I was able to chair the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy. I did that work much better and more professionally because of my friendship and his leadership and help throughout that process.

My story is only one of many, many like it. Jimmie served the Texas State Society of CPAs throughout his entire career. There are countless other CPAs who could have the exact same conversation with you that I am having this morning as a result of his friendship and his leadership.

Jimmie leaves behind a wife of 66 years, Wanda; son Jimmie Lee Mason, Jr.; daughter Kristi Killion and her husband, Jerry; son Greg and his wife, Areace; and his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Jimmie Lee, everywhere he touched got better, whether it was a not-for-profit organization in Lubbock that he served or his profession that he served diligently for all those years. Countless individuals whom he came in contact with are much better off, none more so than the fellow who stands in front of you here today.

My life is better as a result of my friendship with Jimmie Lee Mason, and I miss my friend.

COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS OF WOMEN'S RIGHT TO VOTE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. BROOKS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, one century ago today, the United States House of Representatives passed a constitutional amendment granting women the right to vote. Just 1 year later, the 19th Amendment was ratified.

Even before women had the right to vote, women from Indiana were on their feet, rallying their voices to be heard. Hoosier suffragettes such as Amanda Way, Zerelda Wallace, May Wright Sewall, Helen Gougar, Dr. Amelia Keller, and Grace Julian Clarke led the push for suffrage in Indiana and inspired Hoosier women to stand up and speak out about their rights.

Each of these women and so many more across the country paved the way so that other women can now vote and hold local, State, and Federal Government positions.

It is an honor to be one of seven Congresswomen elected thus far to represent the Hoosier State in our Nation's Capital, but it began with Representative Virginia Ellis Jenckes, who began her service in 1933; then Cecil Murray Harden, who began her service in 1949; Katie Hall in 1982; Jill Long Thompson in 1989; Julia Carson in 2003; and my good friend JACKIE WALORSKI and I in 2013.

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Hoosier women have certainly left their marks in America's history book. But, as I stand here today, I am struck at how much work, yes, we still have to do.

Exercising our right to vote is the most powerful tool we have to share our voice. Today, I join many colleagues here in the House wearing a yellow rose commemorating the suffragettes fight for our rights to vote. So much has been accomplished by women and for women in the past 100 years. Today, I want to encourage all Americans to consider how much farther we can go in the next 100 years.

CHARACTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to reflect on moral character, which is essential to the promise of America in order for us to flourish.

I am reminded that we stand on the shoulders of so many who have gone before us and impacted our lives in many ways—members of our greatest generation—who bravely fought tyranny and oppression during World War II. They were driven by honor, duty, and country. They were selfless, not drawing attention to themselves or seeking to be a celebrity or a hero.

They are the models for character that we must always celebrate and remember. They would never admit it, but they are heroes, heroes for bravely and humbly doing their part to protect our freedom.

Madam Speaker, why is character so important? Why does it matter? It is because our character—who we are and the decisions that we make when we are tested—is foundational to the rule of law.

In this body, we talk a lot about the Constitution, our God-given rights, bills and laws, checks and balances, the rules and the procedures that govern debate, the branches that make up this government, and so on. All of these pieces of our government are significant, but they are lifeless and have no meaning without the spirit of good faith.

If we, representatives of the people, don't lead with moral character, America doesn't stand a chance against corruption and the breakdown of trust with the people we serve. It is on us, each one of us, doing our part for what is righteous, what is just, and for what will keep America free.

President Reagan once said:

Freedom isn't passed down to us in the bloodstream; it has to be fought for.

In other words, freedom involves choices, and that is precisely why character matters.

Every single day, every single moment, our character is tested. In politics, it is tested by the temptations of power, palace intrigue, ambition, and personalities.

I won't blame either side of the aisle, Madam Speaker, but these are the smoldering fires that burn around us that threaten our institutions and our laws.

Did you know that only 3 percent of Americans trust the government will do the right thing—3 percent. Forty-six percent of Americans say that they have very little confidence in Congress. That is a crisis of confidence, and it is a call for reformation of character, so that people will trust and can trust that their representatives will always act in good faith on their behalf.

Again, it starts with us being better examples, not for the glory or the recognition, but because it is the right thing to do. We must be countercultural to the divisiveness that has taken hold of modern politics today. That means stopping the blame game, honoring another's argument, even when we disagree, and acknowledging, and even celebrating, our differences without attacking the other side's character. That is the way that we will come together to find out how we can make tough decisions without kicking the can down the road.

I fear what may come if things do not change. As Abraham Lincoln famously said, "A House divided against itself cannot stand." The strength of our Nation, our Constitution, our laws, and our institutions have no greater guardians than us. It is this government of